AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of upgrading the warranty of a computer system including a plurality of components in a configuration, the method comprising:

detecting, by the computer system, ~~of~~ a change in the configuration of the computer system; and

sending, by the computer system, ~~of~~ a warranty upgrade request to a remote warranty processor when a change in the configuration of the computer system is detected, the warranty upgrade request including configuration information for the computer system.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving, by the computer system, ~~of~~ a warranty upgrade price dependent on the configuration information in the warranty upgrade request.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising asking, by the computer system, the computer user if a warranty upgrade is desired prior to the sending step when a change in configuration is detected.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving, by the computer system, a warranty authorization including a warranted configuration describing the configuration to be warranted.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving, by the computer system, a digitally signed warranty authorizing including a warranted configuration describing the configuration to be warranted.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the warranty authorization includes warranty type information.

7. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the warranty authorization includes warranty duration information.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the warranty authorization includes a unique identification number of the computer system.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5 further comprising authenticating, by the computer system, the digitally signed warranty authorization.

10. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising comparing, by the computer system, the warranted configuration in the warranty authorization with the actual configuration of the computer system, and storing the warranty authorization in secure storage if the warranted configuration matches the actual configuration.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein a secure processor in the computer system performs the comparing and storing.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of upgrading the warranty of a computer system including a plurality of components in a configuration, the method comprising:

    receiving, by a warranty processor, of a warranty upgrade request from the computer system, the warranty upgrade request including configuration information for the computer system, the warranty request being generated by the computer system when the computer system detects a change it in its configuration; and

determining, by the warranty processor, ~~of~~ a warranty upgrade price
dependent on the configuration information in the warranty upgrade request.

13.   (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the warranty upgrade request
includes a unique identification number corresponding to the computer system.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising transmitting, by the
warranty processor, the warranty upgrade price to the computer system.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising receiving, by the warranty
processor, payment of the warranty upgrade price.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising generating, by the warranty
processor, a warranty authorization including a warranted configuration
describing the configuration to be warranted.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the warranty authorizing includes
warranty type information.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the warranty authorization includes
warranty duration information.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the warranty authorization includes
the unique identification number of the computer system.

20.   (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising digitally signing, by the
warranty processor, the warranty authorization to provide a digitally signed
warranty authorization.

21.   (Original) The method of claim 20 further comprising transmitting the digitally signed warranty authorization to the computer system.

22.   (Original) The method claim of claim 12 wherein the warranty upgrade price is determined using the replacement cost of a component in the configuration as a factor.

23.   (Original) The method claim of claim 12 wherein the warranty upgrade price is determined using a remaining amount of warranty time for a component in the configuration as a factor.

24.   (Original) The method claim of claim 12 wherein the warranty upgrade price is determined using age of a component in the configuration as a factor.

25.   (Original) The method claim of claim 12 wherein the warranty upgrade price is determined using reliability data for a component in the configuration as a factor.

26.   (Original) A method of upgrading the warranty of a configurable electrical device including a plurality of components in a configuration, the method comprising:
        detecting, by the configurable electrical device, a change in its configuration; and
        sending, by the configurable electrical device, a warranty upgrade request subsequent to detection of a configuration change.

27.   (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the warranty upgrade request includes configuration information for the configurable electrical device.

28.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 further comprising receiving, by the configurable electrical device, of a warranty upgrade price dependent on the configuration information in the warranty upgrade request.

29.   (Currently Amended) A method of upgrading the warranty of a configurable electrical device including a plurality of components in a configuration, the method comprising:

receiving, by a warranty processor, of a warranty upgrade request from the configurable electrical device, the warranty upgrade request including configuration information for the configurable electrical device and being generated in response to a change in the configuration of the configurable electronic device; and

determining, by the warranty processor, of a warranty upgrade price dependent on the configuration information in the warranty upgrade request.

30.   (Original) A computer system comprising:

a processor; and

a memory, coupled to the processor;

the computer system being programmed to detect a change in computer system configuration and in response thereto transmit a warranty upgrade request.

31.   (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein the warranty upgrade request includes configuration information for the configurable electrical device.